

REMARKS


The above amendment is presented to eliminate multiple dependent claims, thereby reducing PTO filing fees.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment. The attached pages is entitled "**Version with Markings to Show Changes Made**".

Favorable action on the merits is now requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Gerhard COUFAL

By 
Matthew Jacob
Registration No. 25,154
Attorney for Applicant

MJ/pjm
Washington, D.C. 20006-1021
Telephone (202) 721-8200
Facsimile (202) 721-8250
April 23, 2001

09830074-042301
F05240-4206360

Version with Markings to Show Changes Made

3. (Amended) Method according to [either of Claims] Claim 1 [and 2], characterized in that the melamine obtained according to a) or b) and present as a suspension is dissolved by feeding in an aqueous ammoniacal solution, preferably a recycled mother liquor obtained in the crystallization, the solution is optionally mixed with NaOH and, if required, allowed to dwell, the dissolved ammonia is, if required, stripped, filtration is then effected and the melamine is crystallized and isolated.

4. (Amended) Method according to [any of Claims] Claim 1 [to 3], characterized in that the melamine melt is quenched in stage a) by means of recycled mother liquor obtained in the crystallization.

5. (Amended) Method according to [any of Claims] Claim 1 [to 4], characterized in that the melamine melt is cooled to a temperature which is from about 1 to 50°C above the melting point of the melamine, at an ammonia pressure of from about 50 to 1000 bar while feeding in ammonia.

6. (Amended) Method according to [any of Claims] Claim 1 [to 5], characterized in that the melamine melt is cooled to a temperature which is from about 1 to 30°C above the melting point of the melamine.

7. (Amended) Method according to [any of Claims] Claim 1 [to 6], characterized in that the melamine melt is cooled to a temperature which is from about 1 to 50°C above the melting point of the melamine, by passing in ammonia for from about 1 min to 10 h.

8. (Amended) Method according to [any of Claims] Claim 1 [to 7], characterized in that quenching is effected in stage a) at a temperature of from about 25°C to 300°C, preferably from

about 50°C to 200°C and a pressure of from about 1 to 100 bar, preferably from about 1 to 50 bar.

9. **(Amended)** Method according to [any of Claims] Claim 1 [to 8], characterized in that quenching is effected in stage b) at a temperature of from about 200°C to 270°C and a pressure of from about 1 to 100 bar, preferably from about 1 to 50 bar and further cooling is then effected in the second step to about 50°C to 200°C.

10. **(Amended)** Method according to [any of Claims] Claim 1 [to 9], characterized in that melamine and urea are washed out of the off-gases of the melamine reactor by means of a urea melt which simultaneously heats up, and the urea melt is then fed to the melamine synthesis in a melamine reactor and the off-gases are fed to a urea reactor.

09330074-04300
T0E240 "4200E360